

E 8 17

18

THE  
**French King's  
REASONS  
For Owning the Pretended  
Prince of Wales,**

**King of England, Scotland and Ireland.**  
*Communicated in a Letter from Paris, to a Gentle-  
man in London.*

**I**t is no wonder, you are Inquisitive in England,  
how His Majesty wou'd Act towards the Prince  
of Wales, when he pleas'd God to take the King  
his Father to his Mercy.

I suppose 'tis no News to you, that the Prince Assum'd the Style and Dignity of King of England, as soon as his Father the Late King Dy'd, being a Title Devolv'd to him as his Son and Heir. Nor has there been any Difficulty made in France, to Own him in that Quality, his most Christian Majesty, having declar'd his Intentions of doing so sometimes before his Father's Death, for Treating him as Prince of Wales in his Father's Life time; 'twas a Natural Consequence, that after his Decease, he wou'd call him King of England.

Neither do we conceive that any Umbrage can be taken at this, since we don't Apprehend that there lies on Us any Engagement or Obligation to the contrary; That there can none arise from the Treaty of Reswick, 'tis Obvious enough, since the Article of that Treaty, imports only his most Christian Majesty shall not Trouble the King of England in the Possession of his Dominions, and that he should not either with Troops, Ships, nor any other Supplies, Assist such as would give him a Disturbance.

His Majesty will Punctually Observe this Article, and the Character of King of England, which the Prince of Wales thought himself Indispensably Oblig'd to take after his Father's Death, do's not Entitle him to any Succors from France, besides such as his Father receiv'd since the Treaty of Reswick, and are design'd only for his Subsistence, and to Condole him under his Misfortunes.

His Majesty's Generosity would not permit him to abandon either the Prince, or his Family so soon as his Majesty (being no Arbitrator between the King of Great Britain, and the Prince of Wales) could not do so Decisive a thing against the latter, as to decline Owning him, by a Title which is Deriv'd to him from his Birth.

It's no New thing to Continue to the Children, the Titles of Kingdoms which their Fathers have lost; it has been done without Scruple by Princes, who at the same time were in Peace with the present Possessors. History Furnishes one with frequent Examples among the King of Naples, and *Narva*, and not to enlarge on this head: We know that the Kings of *Poland*, of the House of *Vasa*, retained the Style of Kings of *Sweden*, eve till the Peace of *Olive*, tho' that Treaty was made long before their Expulsion, and they had Engag'd in straitened Alliances, both with King *Gustavus*, and Queen *Christina*. In the interim,

His Majesty has Declar'd, that his Intention is only to Treat the Prince of *Wales*, with the same Regard he has Express'd towards the Late King his Father, since the Peace of *Reisch*; and that he has no Thoughts of Disturbing the Repose of *England* on any Pretext whatsoever.

And certainly the measures His Majesty has Observ'd at this Conjunction, are both Just, and Exactly Pursuant to his Treaties, as well as to what his Honour requires from him, tho' at the same time it may be Urg'd, that his Neighbours have not always Acted with a suitable Tenderness, in making such Movements, as might be agreeable to His Majesty.



I am, &c.

LONDON, Printed for J. N. near  
Ludgate, 1701.

